

As a long-term rural Verizon customer, I strongly feel the company should not be permitted to engage in monopolistic practices with other large cable companies. Allowing for less competition, particularly in rural area such as the Western Catskills of New York State, where I live, would mean worse service and higher costs for consumers. Poor and rural communities are already redlined for high-speed access. If this proposal is allowed to stand, it will establish a monopolistic market and result in still worse service for customers such as myself.

I urge you to turn down the proposal from Verizon and the related cable companies.